



**US Army Corps
of Engineers.**

Vicksburg District
4155 Clay Street
Vicksburg, MS 39183-3435
www.mvk.usace.army.mil



Public Notice

APPLICATION NO.:	JAG-MVK-2005-94
EVALUATOR:	Mr. Joseph Greenleaf
PHONE NO.:	(601) 631-7139
FAX NO.:	(601) 631-5459
E-MAIL:	regulatory@mvk02.usace.army.mil
DATE:	March 23, 2005
EXPIRATION DATE:	April 13, 2005

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District, and the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Services are considering an application for a Department of the Army permit and State water quality certification for the work described herein. Comments should be forwarded to the Vicksburg District, Attention: CEMVK-OD-F, at the above address, and the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Environmental Services, Post Office Box 10385, Jackson, Mississippi 39289-0385, and must reach these offices by the cited expiration date.

Law Requiring a Permit: Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), which applies to discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States.

Name of Applicant:
Mr. Dave Newton
Crossgates Baptist Church
Eight Crosswoods Road
Brandon, Mississippi 39042

Name of Agent:
Mr. Michael Goff
Wildlife Technical Services,
Incorporated
Post Office Box 820188
Vicksburg, Mississippi
39182-0188

Location of Work: Section 3, T6N-R1E; UTM Zone 15, 774181E, 3577780N, within the Pearl River drainage basin, Rankin County, near Pearl, Mississippi.

Description of Work: (See enclosed map and drawings.)

The following descriptions of the proposed project and associated impacts are based upon information provided by the applicant.

The applicant is applying for a Department of the Army permit to place fill material into wetlands and other waters of the United

States associated with the construction of new facilities for the Crossgates Baptist Church. The project, located on State Highway 475, near the Jackson International Airport, would include the construction of a new church building and associated facilities for a new church campus.

The total project site consists of approximately 184.81 acres, of which 13.7 acres are jurisdictional wetlands and 0.2 acre is other waters of the United States. The wetland area is located in the center of the property and is the result of beaver ponding. The wetlands are vegetated primarily in water oak, slippery elm, sweetgum, Chinese tallow, yaupon, poison ivy, blackberry, greenbrier, bulrush, cattail, and soft-rush. The other waters consists of two linear water bodies, one exhibiting characteristics between an ephemeral stream and a drainage ditch, the other, an intermittent drain. The fill material will be obtained from the surrounding higher-elevation terrain.

The new church building will comprise 146,000 square feet. The central lake will consist of 9.2 acres. Also planned are an amphitheater, a 27,000-square-foot building, 4 baseball/softball fields, 2 soccer fields, parking lots, access roads, and utilities.

The applicant proposes to mitigate the wetland loss by restoring 28.0 acres of prior converted open field wetlands within the George Whitten Mitigation Property, Leake County, Mississippi (sections 2 and 11, T12N-R9E). Restoration will be accomplished through the planting of site suitable hardwood seedlings during the January - February 2006 time frame. The species to be planted include green ash, cow oak, overcup oak, water oak, shumard oak, and willow oak. The species will be planted in an approximate 12' by 12' spacing, yielding approximately 302 free-to-grow seedlings per acre. It is further proposed that the site will be monitored to ensure the survival of an average of 100 trees per acre after the first growth season. Additionally, a mitigation covenant would be placed on the mitigation area, as per the existing U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Guidelines and Regulations.

The placement of dredged and/or fill material in waters of the United States associated with the mechanized land clearing and levee construction requires a Department of the Army Permit.

Upon reviewing this notice, you should write to this office to provide your opinion of the impacts this work will have on the natural and human environment and address any mitigation you believe is necessary to offset these impacts. Other comments are welcome, but the above information will further our review of the applicant's plan as proposed. Comments of a general nature are not as helpful as those specific to the impacts of the subject project.

State Water Quality Permit: The State Pollution Control Agency must certify that the described work will comply with the State's water quality standards and effluent limitations before a Corps permit is issued.

Cultural Resources: An initial review indicates that the proposed project would not affect any of the sites in Rankin County listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Copies of this notice have been sent to the State Historic Preservation Officer, Federally Recognized Tribes, the Corps archaeologists, and other interested parties for comment on potential effects to cultural resources that could result from this activity.

Endangered Species: Our initial finding is that the proposed work would not affect any endangered species or their critical habitat. This proposal is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and any comments regarding endangered species or their critical habitat will be addressed in our evaluation of the described work.

Flood Plain: In accordance with 44 CFR Part 60 (Flood Plain Management and Use), participating communities are required to review all proposed development to determine if a flood plain development permit is required. Flood plain administrators should review the proposed development described in this public notice and apprise this office of any flood plain development permit requirements.

Evaluation Factors: The decision whether or not to issue a permit will be based upon an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its expected adverse effects. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered; among these are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, historic values, fish and wildlife values, flood damage prevention, land use classification, navigation, recreation, water supply, water quality, energy needs, safety, food requirements and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. Evaluation of the proposed activity will include application of the guidelines published by the Environmental Protection Agency under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act.

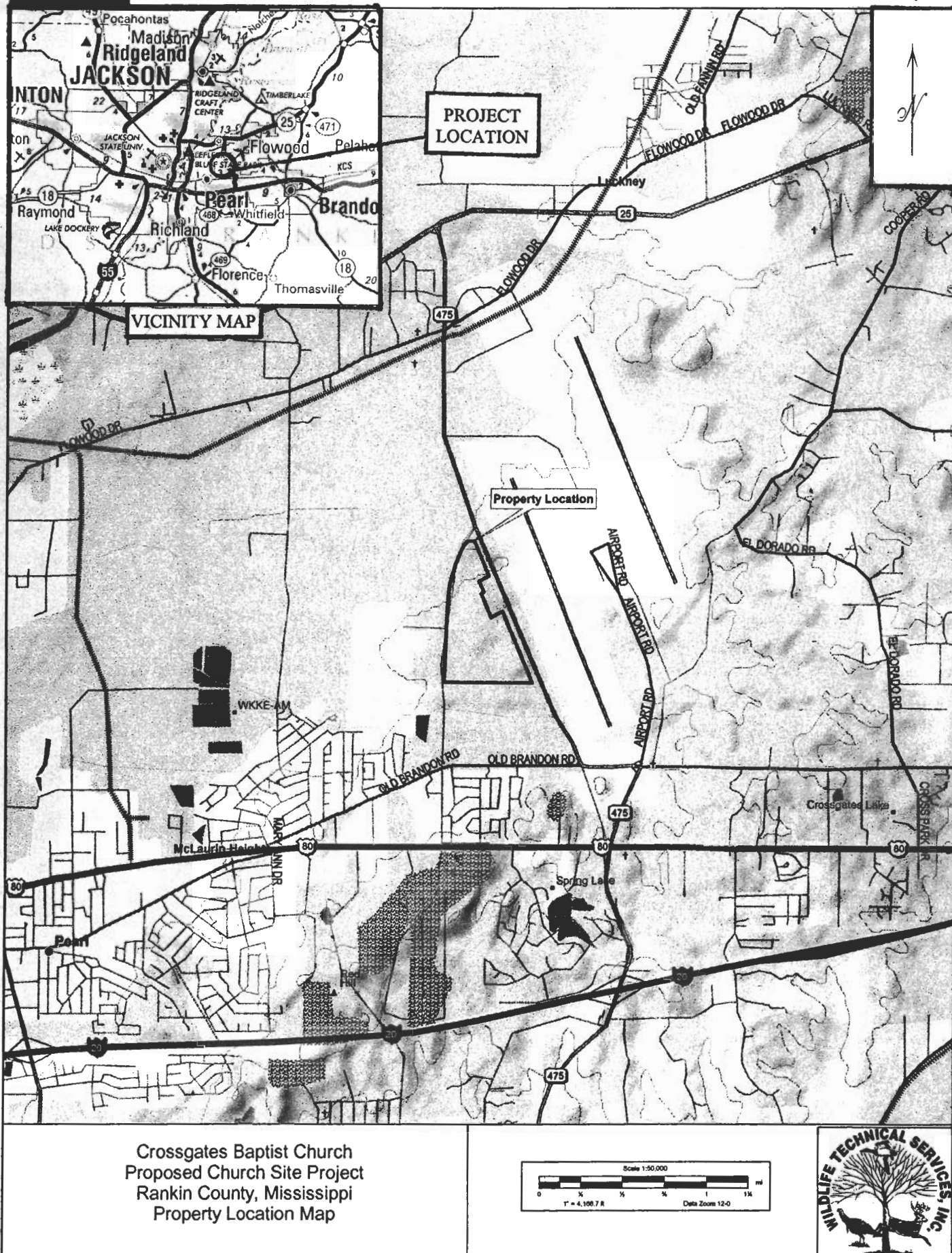
Public Involvement: The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties. These comments will be used to evaluate the impacts of this project. All comments will be considered and used to help determine whether to issue the permit, deny the permit, or issue the permit

with conditions, and to help us determine the amount and type of mitigation necessary. This information will be used in our Environmental Assessment or Impact Statement. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing.

Opportunity for a Public Hearing: Any person may make a written request for a public hearing to consider this permit application. This request must be submitted by the public notice expiration date and must clearly state why a hearing is necessary. Failure of any agency or individual to comment on this notice will be interpreted to mean that there is no objection to the proposed work. Please bring this announcement to the attention of anyone you know who might be interested in this matter.

Notification of Final Permit Actions: Each month, the final permit actions from the preceding month are published on the Vicksburg District Regulatory web page. To access this information, you may follow the link from the Regulatory web page, <http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/offices/od/odf/main.asp>, or go directly to the Final Permit Actions web page at <http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/offices/od/odf/PubNotice/MonthlyNotice/pnmain.asp>.

W. Harold Lee
Team Leader
Evaluation Section



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www.delorme.com

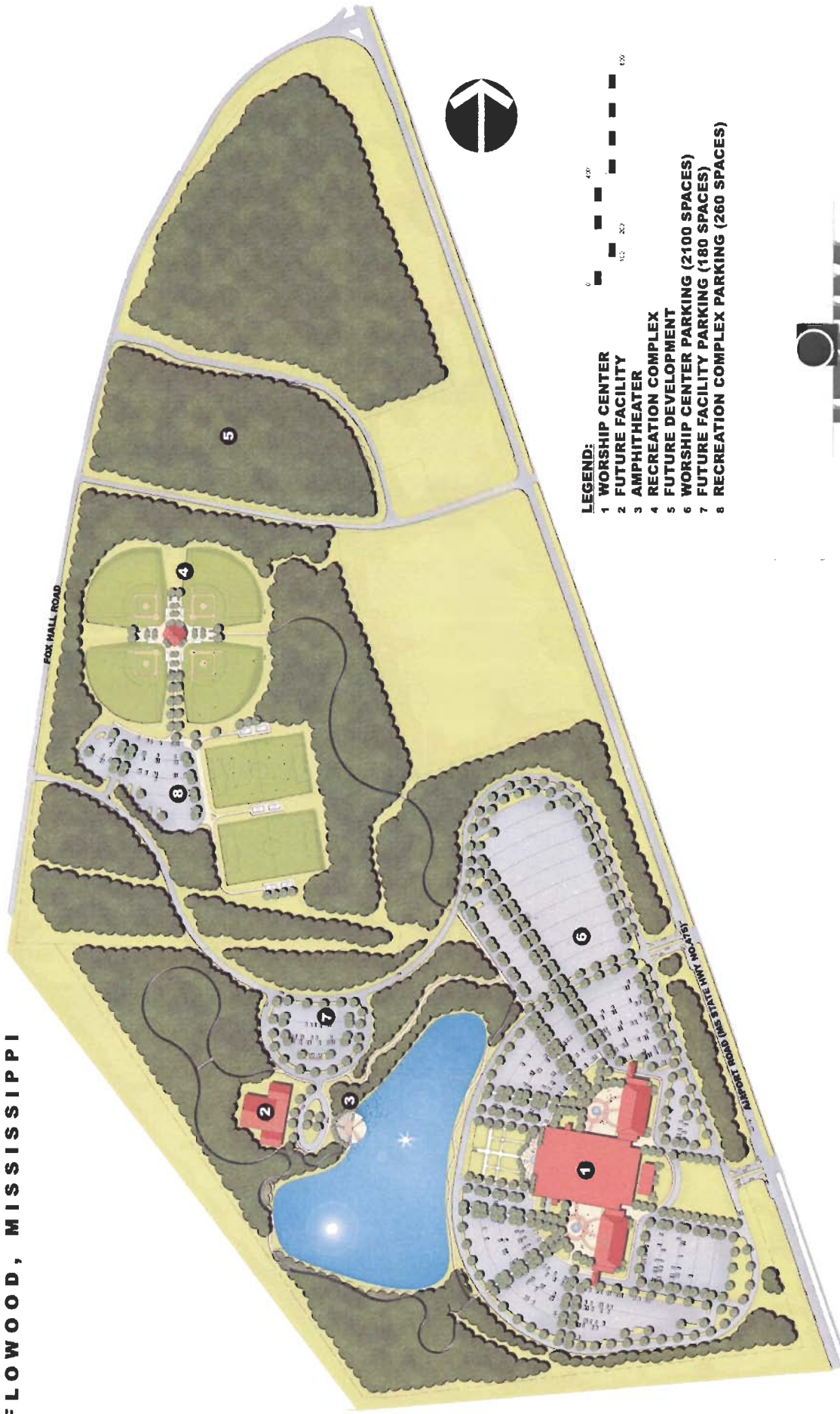


CEMVK-OD-FE JAG-MVK-2005-94

**CROSSGATES BAPTIST CHURCH
MR. DAVE NEWTON**

CROSSGATES BAPTIST CHURCH

FLOWOOD, MISSISSIPPI



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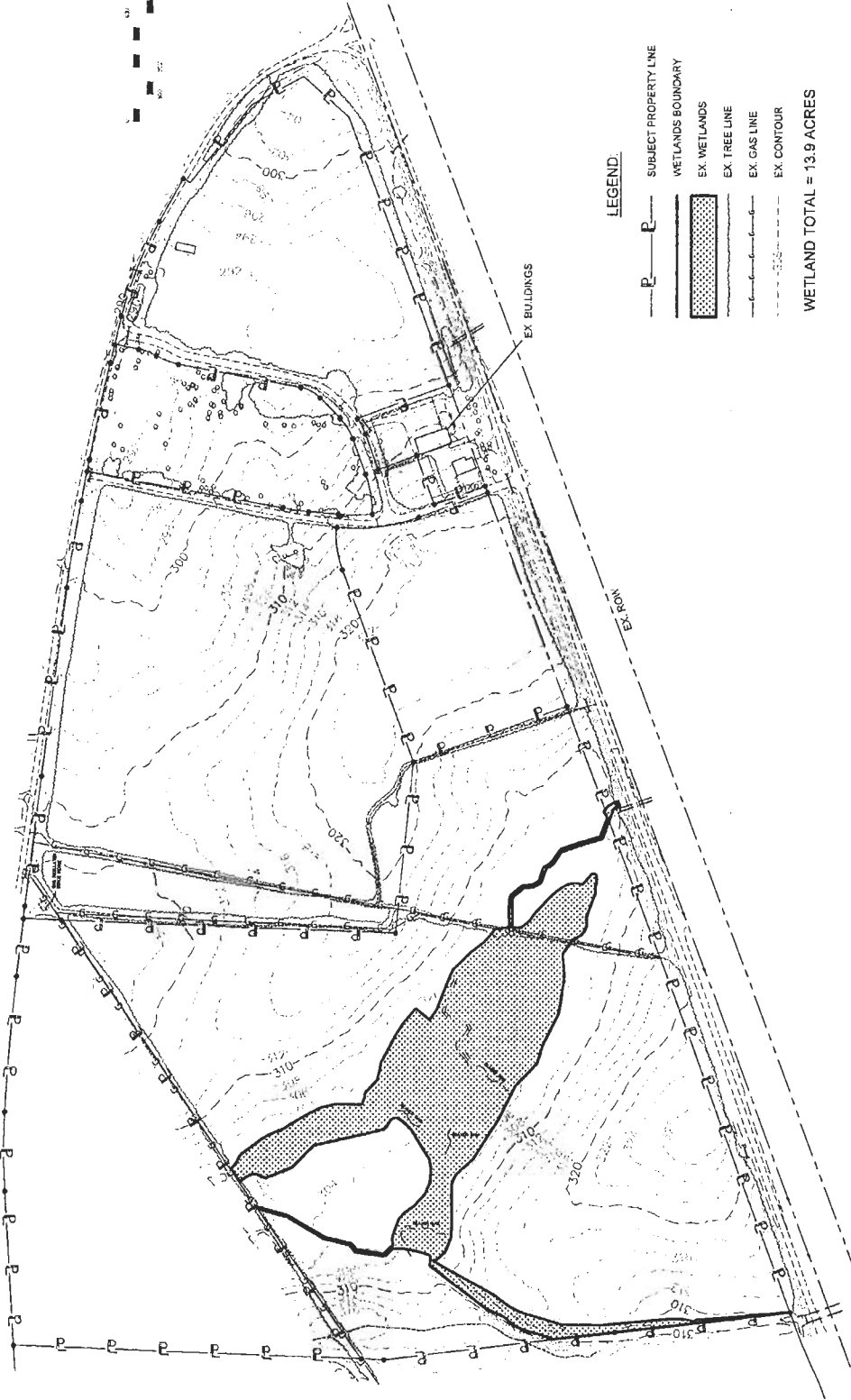
CROSSGATES BAPTIST CHURCH
MR. DAVE NEWTON

JOHNSON BAILEY HENDERSON MCNEEL

www.jbhm.com

CROSSGATES BAPTIST CHURCH

FLOWOOD, MISSISSIPPI



LEGEND

- P — P — SUBJECT PROPERTY LINE
- W — W — WETLANDS BOUNDARY
- EX — EX — EXISTING WETLANDS
- EX — EX — EXISTING TREE LINE
- EX — EX — EXISTING GAS LINE
- EX — EX — EXISTING CONTOUR

WETLAND TOTAL = 13.9 ACRES



WILDLIFE TECHNICAL
SERVICES, INC.
(W.T.S.I.)
P.O. BOX 820188
VICKSBURG, MISSISSIPPI
39182-0188
601-634-0097
601-630-9778 (FAX)

EXHIBIT A
CROSSGATES BAPTIST CHURCH
RANKIN COUNTY, MS
• • • • •

EXHIBIT SHEET
WETLANDS DELINEATION AND TOPOGRAPHY

DATE: 11/04/03 BY: JAG-MVK-2005-94



MENDROP-WAGES

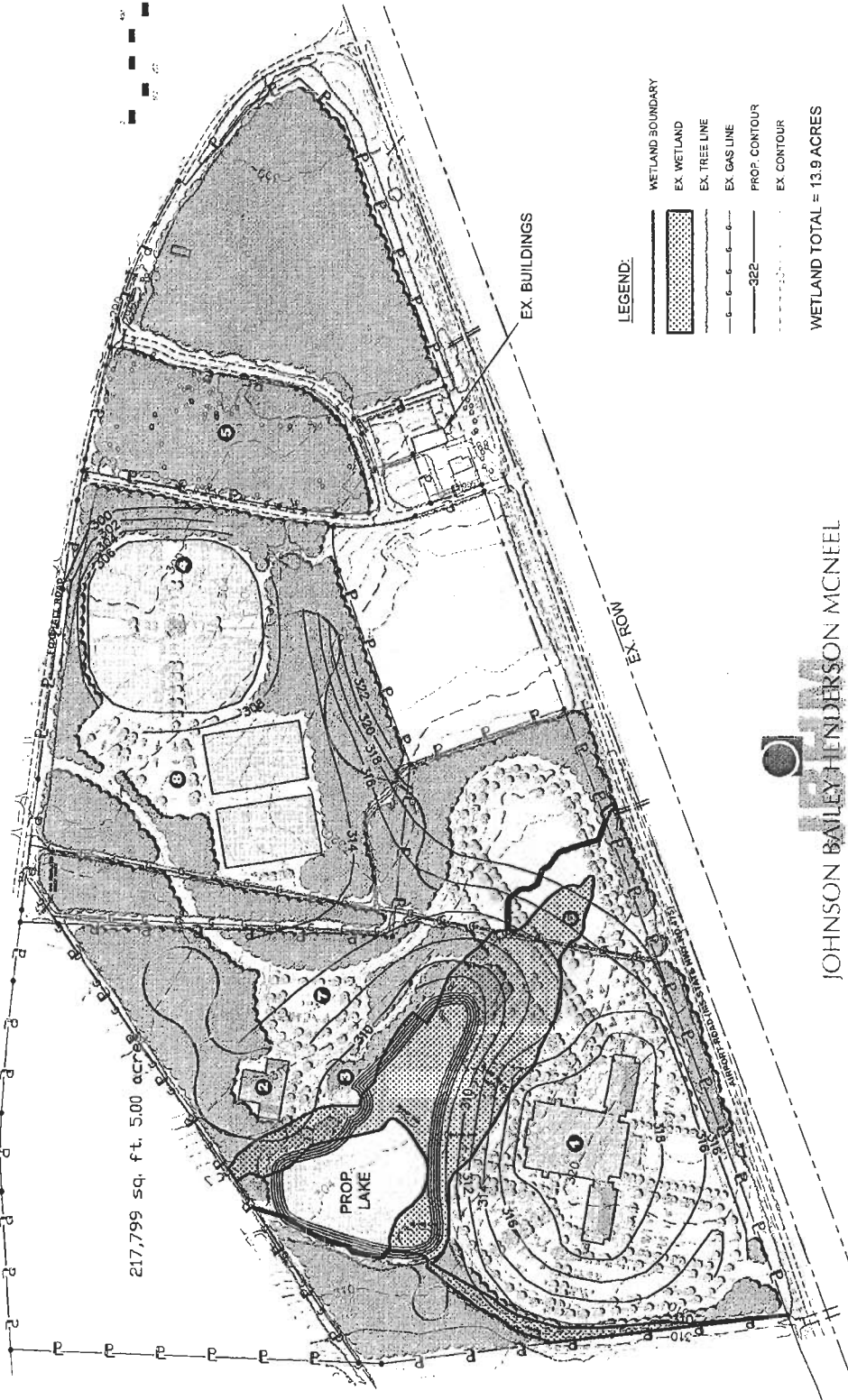
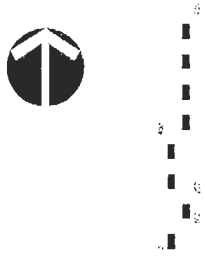
834 WILSON DRIVE
SUITE A
RIDGELAND, MS 39157
TEL (601) 899-5158
FAX (601) 899-5110

CEMVK-OD-FE JAG-MVK-2005-94

CROSSGATES BAPTIST CHURCH
MR. DAVE NEWTON

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FLOWOOD, MISSISSIPPI



217,799 sq. ft. 5.00 acres

EX. BUILDINGS

EX. ROW

- LEGEND:**
- WETLAND BOUNDARY
 - EX. WETLAND
 - EX. TREE LINE
 - EX. GAS LINE
 - PROP. CONTOUR
 - EX. CONTOUR

WETLAND TOTAL = 13.9 ACRES

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EXHIBIT C
CROSSGATES BAPTIST CHURCH
RANKIN COUNTY, MS

EXHIBIT SHEET
WETLANDS DELINEATION AND TOPOGRAPHY



MENDROP-WAGES

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